

Indian Chieftain.

GLAD For Year in Advance.
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J. L. ADAMS, Editor
M. E. MILFORD, Manager.
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How do you like poetry? (See this issue.) We never did have much taste for verse; we haven't now.

The Cherokee Strip Live Stock Association held its recent annual meeting with closed doors. There is evidently something in the wind.

Dr. Brand having taken to the Indian country to work up opposition to the allotment law, the commissioner has decided to issue an order directing his ejection from the reservations.

The parties who met at Tahlequah to get up and adopt a platform for the National party were, Col. W. P. Ross, S. H. Benge, R. M. Wolfe, Soggy, C. Saline and J. E. Campbell. John N. was on hand, but what part he took to the matter is not known.

The Neosho Times wails bitterly because the United States deputy marshals at that place have been carrying on a crusade against parties who have been selling whisky to Indians. When an editor is placed in a position where he must defend violators of law, it speaks badly of his association and he had better hire some one to "dump" his office into the river.

What more can any citizen claim that those rights a fair and just interpretation of compacts and treaties give him? That is just what the Downing party proposes to do. The right to construe acknowledged treaties—there are no others—imposes the obligation to construe them honestly and justly and in strict accord with the intent, meaning and purport of the provision. If this is done there need be no fears as to an agreeable adjustment of rights all around.

CHEROKEE POLITICS.

When confined to science of government and the preservation of its safety, peace and prosperity, or to the defense of existing rights, perhaps there never was a word more improperly applied than "politics" to the contest for official position, that divides the people of this nation into parties. Safety of government, the peace and prosperity of the people are of little or no concern in the struggle for office. These conditions are left to take care of themselves in the bitterness of the strife, personal detractions, intrigues, collusions and confidential misrepresentations of facts. This condition of things is owing to the scarcity of any possible grounds upon which to erect political differences in the science of government or in such politics that, according to the belief of a party, would be most conducive to the public good. Every citizen of this nation, native or adopted, is alike opposed to any change in government, in the present tenure of lands, and to the introduction of any cause that may disturb existing relations. All are seemingly satisfied as far as that goes, and believe that their individual conditions would not be bettered by a change. As said, the grounds for political differences are indeed scarce. This being the case, confining the question to strictly political causes, party differences with us must be accounted for otherwise. In doing this it will be found that, what are termed political differences, are more the product of race jealousies and the fostered recollections of old grievances than can be imputed to conflicting views as to actual political reasons. No tribe of Indians can count within its body politic such a variety of people, as the Cherokees. Like all nations that have struggled for self preservation and the retention of power in their own hands, the Cherokees can but view with alarm and jealousy the presence of a steadily increasing element in their midst that claims a division of public authority and of benefits that were once exclusively their own. The possible departure of controlling power out of their hands into the hands of a wholly or partly foreign element, in part at least, is as offensive to them and naturally so, as ever were to any nation the steady encroachments of an aggressive power that seized the reins of government. This condition of things is not confined to the Cherokees alone, but beginning with the first colony planted on American soil, is common with all the tribes. Every means of absorption is at work, and the progress towards accomplishment is too evident not to recognize. To the full Indian this is just as apparent as to his mixed blooded brother and by reason of it the division of political authority among the different classes of citizens is an aggressive fact. Here therefore is the source of what is unanimously termed political differences.

differences that originated in the science of government, the preservation of peace, safety and prosperity. There are two parties. Each one has its bosses and sub-bosses, captains, workers and general liars-mongers. The progressive element of the nation are those who can discover no positive political differences between the parties and vote rather for men than for the services of a faction—for good government equal rights, equal protection and equal chances in the pursuits of life.

"FAIR PLAY" REPLIES.

MR. CHIEFTAIN.—In reply to "Justice" and "White Arrow" I have only to say that the main points of their replies are correct. That is to say, that they concede what I stated about candidate Mayes and content themselves with making excuses for him. For example, they acknowledge that Mr. Mayes did deny a colored man a night's lodging because the colored man was looked upon by him as a "nigger," but states as a set off that he knows better than to do the same thing now. I admit that Mr. Mayes would be the last man to repeat that invidious to the colored men until the next election is over.

Again "Justice" says it is a low fling at Mr. Mayes to tell about his getting away or trying to get away with confederate property that had been placed in his charge as quartermaster. I have only to say that it is no refutation nor even a denial of a fact to call it a "low fling."

As for the \$120,000 the nation gave him for clerk's services, I did not then, nor do I now, deny that he was selected on account of his legal ability, but I only said that he did not earn the money he was after; ergo, that he was after the nation's money or revenue with out intending any adequate return and that our people ought to be cautious about supporting a man for chief who shows such concern for their revenue.

The decision in the Canadian district judge case is admitted by "Justice" also. Let the fact go for what it is worth. It is worth just what it is and that is this: That both parties to the suit submitted the question to Judge Mayes, whether the vote at a certain precinct should or should not be counted and that the judge decided that no votes at any of the precincts, whether legal or illegal should be counted.

This was a clear evasion of the issue and an imposition upon the nation. But let "Justice" bear in mind that I am not voluntarily attacking Mr. Mayes. They, "Justice," "White Arrow" and others choose to give currency to things against Mr. Bunch and I only propose to show that if that was to be the line of battle in this campaign, something could be said on both sides.

We say now, and say it again and again: Come down to figures, i. e., the comparison of the platforms and politics of the two respective parties.

Respectfully,
FAIR PLAY.

NATIONAL AND THE INDEPENDENT PARTY.

ED. CHIEFTAIN:—"National," in your issue of March 31st, seems to take it pretty hard. Yes, "National," I am the "picture man," and I am proud to own good old Missouri as my former home and I am very willing you should get in your "little" work of "Puke," I advise "National" to go to a while and "Puke" and get rid of the vile political rubbish which his poor stomach is overloaded with and by and by, perhaps, you could join the Independent party; then you would know for a fact that there was a bonafide party and that there was really an executive committee.

"National" says, "The president of the executive committee should know, if he does not, that this country has been preserved by the valor and patriotism whom he affects to despise." I did not "affect to despise Mr. Bunch nor his followers—no, not even "National." I simply differ in opinion as to who, in my judgment, was most qualified to be our chief. I believe Mr. Bunch a gentleman, an upright, honest man and one of the shining lights of the national party, but I am sorry I can't say as much of "National," after reading his silly article. The fact is I felt, after reading his article, that an attempt had been made to curry me down and that I had been deliberately kicked at by the braying donkey of the National party.

While I agree with you that this nation has been wisely managed up to this time—and in all probability will continue to be—yet I do not believe that "National" has or will be in any way responsible for this wise course; nor can I see why he so bitterly objects to the adopted citizen helping to continue this wise course. The only theory I can suggest is his narrow vision and unliberal policy displayed in attacking myself and the Independent party. Now "National" is

you really desire to be one of the shining lights, step out on the liberal platform, as Louis Downing did, and say as he did, "We are one people, working for one common cause; no north, no south; no difference in race, the red, the white, the black. Let us all work for one common good and that good be the Cherokee nation and its whole people." Then you would be of service to your God and your country. Don't draw yourself up like a tarapin in your hard, crusty shell and say, oh, I am a "native;" no adopted citizen must meddle with me. If you are not far enough advanced to come out and stand with the liberal and progressive element and vote for good old honest Joel Mayes, don't make a donkey of yourself and kick the Independent party for doing what you are not far enough advanced to do. I know of plenty of good, wise and true men in your party who are liberal and who would to-day hail with joy the endorsement of the Independent party, and they are the kind of men that helped to steer the good old Cherokee nation through the shoals of danger into the harbor of safety. It was only such men as you, "National," that have fought every attempt of a true adopted citizen to help foster and care for the place that is his only home, whose blood flows in the veins of your people. Yet such men as you think these same men have no political opinion you should respect and, if one happens to assert his opinion in print, be ostracized for that opinion.

"National" says the adopted citizen "enjoys the unbounded generosity of the Cherokees' rights and immunities of law, government and land without having contributed a dollar to their exchequer, or an iota to their morals or knowledge and refinement." Not so, friend. On page 275, section 68, of the compiled laws of the Cherokee nation, you will find a small fee must be paid; and on page 276, of same book, you will find a solemn oath (you have never taken) that is administered and yet the white man is not a citizen. But it takes yet a higher contracting party than even the nation to make him a citizen—that is a woman—and she and she alone is the one that makes us an adopted citizen, and it is her and her children's rights that we ask a voice in the nation's affairs and as to morals, I should not wonder if the adopted citizen could scare up as "moral" and as "refined" a record as my friend "National."

In conclusion I advise "National" to go to Missouri and take a "Puke" and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's soothing syrup and cut his wisdom teeth, then he will be ready to take his first progressive and liberal step. Yours truly,
B. H. STONE.

THE DOWNING PLATFORM.

EDITOR CHIEFTAIN:—The platform of the Downing party is an instrument that will meet the approval and sanction of every citizen of this nation who wishes to see harmony restored among our citizens and the faithful fulfillment of the stipulations of treaty. Its spirit and life breathes into the politics of our country an inauguration of new ideas, new methods of solving national questions that invites the careful attention and consideration of the whole Cherokee people. The first and great object as set forth, to maintain our present form of government as an Indian government, is the only protection for our race. Any one who has kept himself sufficiently posted on the treatment the different Indian tribes have received from the government within the last twenty-five years in her efforts to civilize them so to speak, can readily and easily realize the truthfulness of the above assertion. Instead of a blessed civilization for the Indian, it has proven his cursed extermination. It also favors progress and our resources applied to the best advantage for the benefit of the people, that industry and enterprise may be encouraged and labor rewarded. These are the foundation stones for the success of any government. Without the encouragement of enterprise and industry, no nation can expect to amount to anything. It is by a careful fostering of the ideas of these principles that makes nations proud of their wealth. It also proposes to use its best endeavors to give every child in the nation an education. Upon this the future society of our country much depends. Where education and intelligence are, crime is less, citizens are better and the natural tendency of the people upright. It recognizes the fact that harmony among our citizens is conducive to our best interest. It guarantees to all classes of citizens all the rights under the law, constitution and treaty. Our government and her institutions must be preserved by a united effort of the people. Its great endeavor will be to make its citizens feel that this is their home, and that their life, liberty

The discord that has recently been such a great matter of complaint among certain classes of citizens was caused by the national council not giving them the recognition due them under existing laws and treaty. Whether it was a lack of intelligence or a misconception of treaty is a question for the interested parties to decide for themselves. But the fact of a guarantee being incorporated into the platform of the Downing party, allowing them all the rights implied in law, compact agreements and treaty is sufficient, in our opinion, that in justice to themselves alone, they cannot consistently afford to jeopardize their interests by supporting a party whose platform sets forth no principles of equity or justice. (We speak now with reference to the platform the Nationals had four years ago.) It also opposes the sale of our lands, for settlement, to any but Indians. Some time since there was a feeling among some of our citizens that if the Cherokee nation could get eighteen or twenty millions for the lands west of ninety-six degrees we should sell them. No right-minded man will think for a moment of disposing of any more of our lands. The Cherokee nation needs all the lands it has, and time alone will conclusively show that posterity will fully enjoy it. It looks upon railroads in our country without our consent as an infringement upon our rights and a violation of treaty stipulations. By a careful perusal of this platform it is plainly to be seen that by a rigid and strict adherence to its principles, our nation cannot help becoming prosperous, to a greater degree than it has already attained.

J. H. BEEK.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

EDITOR CHIEFTAIN:—The Jewish antiquities, as written by Josephus, and the first books of the bible, as written by Moses, suggest some unusual inquiries in the mind of the reader. In the book of Exodus we read that as Moses was tending the flocks of his father-in-law, Jethro, in Mount Horeb he saw a burning bush and turned aside to "see this great sight," why the bush was not consumed. When he had turned aside, "God called unto him out of the midst of the bush." That part of the bible which Moses wrote, says that he was learned in all the lore of the Egyptians. What that lore consisted of may be the history of the creation and of many things not connected with the exodus of the Jews, their laws and wanderings. Josephus, in his Jewish antiquities speaks of a wonderful plant which he calls the Baaras plant, and which he says was present death to any one who touched it. It was only harmless when taken up by the roots. The usual way of doing this was to dig all around it until by a small root it was attached to the ground, when it was easily pulled loose by tying a dog by his tail to it and giving him a big scare. The last serious effect that bush had was the sudden demise of the dog. Josephus further says of the bush that Solomon used it in driving evil spirits out of the people, or demons as he called them. The root was the color of flame, and at evening the bush emitted rays of light like lightning. From the midst of the flames of the burning bush God told His name to Moses. I AM, as HE then gave it, is Jehovah, the person being changed so as to mean, He is. There is what may be termed a coincidence with the burning bush. The true name of the Cherokees is "Tali-lu-kee" which in English means fire consumers or being consumed by fire. The name is written on their persons invisible to any but the initiate.

W. EUBANKS.

WEST OF 96 DEGREES AND THE VALLANT PAOK.

There has been considerable writing and talking on politics of late but I have not noticed anything concerning our lands west. There was considerable effort made by the last council to annul the present lease and of course leave the land entirely in the hands of the treasurer again. I and a few others of the Bunch party are in favor of leasing the strip again for \$900,000, no more or less, and to give the cattle men that are there no preference. If they are not willing to pay that amount they can get out of the way for some one else to pay the inter-course tax of one dollar per head and let council say what to do with the money. I am in favor of taking the remainder that we get on the present lease to build up our school system, but not for the purpose of getting up some swindle as has already been attempted.

If we lease the strip to a company of Cherokees we will be served like we were about those ties and the first collection of the inter-course tax. We would get no lease money and it would be doubtful if we ever got the land back. I am not in favor of selling one

ing to settle it because we have not got the population. So the best thing we can do is to lease it to white men again as there is nothing to hinder us.

Secretary of the Interior Teller says, in answer to a resolution of the United States senate of December 3rd, 1884, inquiring concerning leasing of land in the Indian Territory:

"The Cherokees have a fee simple title to their lands and they do not recognize the right of the department to interfere in the management of their affairs with reference thereto." And again speaking of the Cherokee strip: "The land is theirs and they have an undoubted right to use it in any way that a white man would use it, with the same character of title and an attempt to deprive the nation of the rights would be in direct conflict with the treaty as well as the plain words of the patent. They are quiet capable of determining without the aid of the Indian department or congress what is to their advantage or disadvantage and the government cannot interfere with their rightful use and occupation of their lands, which are rightfully theirs, as the public domain is that of the United States, subject only to the provisions of article sixteen of the treaty of 1866, which at most is only a contract to sell certain portions of the land; but until the government settles friendly Indians thereon and pays for the land the right of possession and occupancy is especially reserved."

Commissioner Atkins says: "This opinion of Secretary Teller's still controls the department and must until reversed or modified by competent authority."

Springer of Illinois says, in attempting to get the Oklahoma bill through the house of representatives: "What is the obstacle to the passage of this bill? It is the lease of the Cherokee strip by the Cherokee nation to a cattle company—the largest land lease ever put on record in this country, covering an area of over 6,000,000 acres; as large as the states of Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Now I want to call attention to this lease which this bill abrogates. Unless we abrogate that lease we can never make another treaty with those Indians. The Cherokee Strip Live Stock association pays the Indians \$100,000 a year for that lease and sublets it for \$500,000, making \$400,000 annually."

Now then as we have got a picket of Texas cow horns on the strip and the Indian department holds that we have a right to do as we please with those lands, I think we had better try to keep the picket there a few years longer. Let us hear from some one else concerning the strip.

There are a great many who, for a few pennies, That in our midst do live, Would our country destroy. So out they do go, After political lore, Signing themselves thus: "We," "Vinita," "Observer," etc., to raise a fuss.

The last, but the least by far, Comes the insignificant three-star, For himself to get a name Of honesty unrepresented in fame.

In print to see his name he fails, So Washington, therefore, he assails, That, concerning himself, to let the world know, That such insignificant did grow.

From what nation, breed or tribe These pigs did come; All to tell have failed. Except "Vinita," the valiant and brave.

In their eagerness for fame, Their unmanliness proclaim, By flaunting the bloody shirt, The Bunch party to harm.

By in their efforts failing, Ever talking of importance, availing, By the combined yelps of all the stray dogs, The "Rabbit" to start toward the logs.

The huntman to the pack propose, That they for a while repose, While he around their lair lies hid, For the "Rabbit" (so them) an impendable thicket hath took.

They now propose, at last, To electioneer on the present, not the past, Though they do not hesitate To go beyond, where they knew nothing of fate.

They of their candidate do boast indeed, That of older and apples he hath no need; And they that of them will partake, Will say, he is the fellow for chief design.

Older, the "fire of life" great, Hath the jug as an inextinguishable main, By which these men, both great and small, Are to become the greatest men of all.

Temperance and morality, our constitution calls, In the foundation of all good government; Yet, by older and the jug, They propose the "Rabbit" to pling.

All right, come ahead, With your jug, older and apple-bread, Which will win for any party, ye say, If you have got plenty for voice to pay.

But we will win, at all, By terms just and fair called; You may spoil your fire and older wine, But you can never get us into four.

Let the people for themselves consider Which is the best leader; A few well trained leaders, Or a lot of fools that know nothing but to plifer.

WASHINGTON ADAMS.
A SUBSTITUTE PROPOSED.
EDITOR INDIAN CHIEFTAIN:—I see in your paper of the 31st of March in "Chouteau Chronicles" that the question to be debated before the Chouteau lyceum at the next meeting is: "Resolved, that the lawyer is justifiable in defending a bad cause." As the chief justice is the presiding officer of the organization would it not be more interest to the people, and if said justice is disposed to go into either during vacation, would it not be best to substitute the following question, viz: "Should the clerk of the supreme court be permitted to represent any cause, good or bad, before the different branches of the supreme court, and what should the chief or national council do in the premises?"

PLATFORM OF THE DOWNING PARTY.

Adopted in Convention at Tahlequah, November 6th, 1886.

First.—We cheerfully submit to a majority rule in all elections, and to an honest count of the votes.

Second.—Our first and great object will be to maintain our present form of government, as an Indian government is the only protection for our race.

Third.—We favor progress and the use of our resources to the best advantage of the Cherokee people, to the end that industry and enterprise may be encouraged and labor rewarded.

Fourth.—Education and enlightenment must ever be the great aim of the Cherokee people. We obligate ourselves to use our best endeavors to place it within the reach of every child that belongs to our nation.

Fifth.—One great object of the Cherokee nation must be to keep peace and friendship among her own citizens. This government and her institutions must be maintained by the united effort of our people. We therefore guarantee equal justice to all citizens and every right guaranteed to them under our laws, constitution and treaties, the different classes, viz: Cherokees by blood, Shawnees, Delawares, freedmen, Creeks and adopted whites. We recognize the fact that the destiny of our country rests in the hands of this entire people. Our great purpose will be to make every citizen feel that this is his home; that here his life, liberty and property are protected.

Sixth.—That we oppose the sale of our lands and their settlement by any but Indians. Investments in land we consider safer and better than any. By natural increase and adoption our population is rapidly multiplying and the country may be needed for our future growth.

Seventh.—We look upon the introduction and operation of railroads in our country without our consent as a great infringement upon our rights and a violation of treaty stipulation.

Eighth.—We favor an economical administration of our affairs to the end that our public funds may not be squandered, but used as necessary may demand and to the best interest of the people. In many instances a nation must be liberal but not wasteful.

Ninth.—We look upon farming and stock raising as our greatest resources for the accumulation of wealth. We are therefore decidedly in favor of encouraging those two branches of industry.

Tenth.—We are in favor of increasing our internal revenue to its greatest capacity so as not to injure our general welfare. The tax on our grazing privileges, on hay, timber and minerals, should be handed for every dollar that they are worth, as a wealth that belongs to the people.

STEPHEN TELLER,
Pres't Committee.

J. H. COVELL, Secretary.

Approved:
SAMUEL SMITH, Gen'l Man'gr.

WOMEN CAN NOW VOTE IN KANSAS at municipal elections.

The Invaluable Domestic Remedy—DARBY'S PROPHYLACTIC FLUID.

Gives prompt and permanent relief in burns, scalds, chilblains, venous stings or bites, cuts and wounds of every description.

It is invaluable in scarlet fever, diphtheria, small-pox, cholera, yellow typhus, typhoid and other fevers.

For sick-room, to prevent the spread of contagion, it is the best disinfectant known.

Their Business Booming.
Probably no one thing has caused such a general revival of trade at W. G. Patton & Co.'s, as their new and improved way of giving away to their customers of so many free trial bottles of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. Their trade is simply enormous, this very valuable article from that it always cures and never disappoints. Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Bronchitis, Croup, and all throat and lung diseases quickly cured. You can test it before trying by getting a trial bottle free, large size \$1. Every bottle warranted.

To Regulate

THE FAVORITE HOME REMEDY is warranted not to contain a single particle of Mercury or any injurious substance, but is purely vegetable.

It will Cure All Diseases caused by Derangement of the Liver, Kidneys and Bowels.

If your Liver is deranged, the blood is impure, the breath offensive, you have headache, feel languid, depressed and nervous. To prevent a more serious condition, take at once Simmons' Liver Regulator.

It is a safe and reliable remedy for all cases of Liver and Bowel derangement. It is a safe and reliable remedy for all cases of Liver and Bowel derangement.

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KEEP YOUR EYE ON THIS!



--- CLOTHING! ---

My Spring Stock of Men's and Boys' Clothing is now in and suffice it to say it is

Complete in all Grades and Styles.

Special: Have taken the utmost precaution and care in making up my selection in this branch, with a clear conception of the best value for the least money. This branch of my business I thought I would abandon because had not sufficient room to handle but after looking over last year's trade in this line found it has outgrown my expectation and at least 25 per cent. better than I was aware of, consequently will continue on a much larger scale than ever before. Will say as to my stock: It is in better shape than ever before, all old stock being cleaned out.

FATHER AND SON:

Call at once and see prices I am making in the following suite, viz:

Satinets, Cotton Worsted, Union and all

Wool Cassimeres; Cork Screw and

Worsted in all Shades.

I am showing the finest line of TAILOR-MADE PANTS ever offered to the trade. See my \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50 goods.

To the Famous Preismeyer Shoe and Giesecke Boot

The Medal has been awarded. These goods are hand made and are unquestionably the best goods ever offered to the trade. EVERY PAIR WARRANTED.

Dry Goods, both Staple and Fancy!

To arrive in the near future. The Cheapest, Largest, and best Selected stock embracing latest styles in Novelties, &c. When all are in will post you further along the line.

The Famous Golden Crown Flour

I am still handling and other similar grades which are well known among you, consequently need no comment. I will in the future as in the past continue to sell you goods lower than all would-be competitors.

Thanking you one and all for past favors, I hope by strict attention to business to merit a continuance of the same.

I am, Your Humble Servant,

G. W. GREEN,

Opera House Block, Vinita, Indian Ter.

ST. LOUIS UNION STOCK YARDS.

The Only Wholesale Yards in St. Louis Accessible by Rail and Water!

1. Every railroad entering St. Louis is directly tributary to these yards.
2. Texas shippers are informed that connection with these yards from the Iron Mountain Southern railroad can be made without cost and with much less shrinkage than to any other.
3. These yards have the peculiar advantage of being located on the St. Louis side of the river, from which five hundred thousand people draw their provisions supply.
4. Every packing house in St. Louis has a regular buyer stationed here. Buyers of cattle, hogs and sheep, both for the home market and eastern shipment, are at all times represented.
5. For comfort and convenience these yards have no superior in the country. Two lines of street cars approach here. Hotel, telegraph offices and other conveniences for stockmen on the premises.

D. MCN. PALMER, Supt. W. A. RAMSAY, Sec. and Treas. C. C. MAFFITT, Pres't.

Lumber! -- Lumber!

By L. J. TROTT,

Vinita, Indian Territory.

The public are invited to see the immense stock of building material kept and to note the prices, which defy competition.

None but CASH orders solicited. Satisfaction Guaranteed.

W. L. TROTT, Manager.

H. BALENTINE'S VINITA DRUG STORE.

FRAZEE & TROTT, M'ng'rs.

Drugs & Medicines, Paints, Brushes, Oils, Etc., Etc.

A Full Line of Druggists' Sundries

Will be Sold at said House

for a Living Profit.

We are not Giving our Goods

Away, Neither are we Offer-

ing to make our

Customers Rich With Snide

Jewelry and Jim Cracks.

But Will Give You Your Mon-